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July 29, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1722

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/725,031; Filed: December 2, 2003
For: **Stroke Limiter For Valve Pin Actuating Mechanism**
Inventor: Payman Akhavan Tabassi
Our Ref: 2107.1750001/TUM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. A listing of the cited documents on Forms PTO/SB/08a (2 pages) and PTO/SB/08b (1 page);
3. Copies of cited documents (BA1-BA8 and CA1); and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
July 29, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Teresa U. Medler
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 44,933

TUM/MMP/shr
Enclosures

SKGF_293043.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Payman Akhavan Tabassi

Appl. No.: 10/725,031

Filed: December 2, 2003

**For: Stroke Limiter For Valve Pin
Actuating Mechanism**

Confirmation No.: 2582

Art Unit: 1722

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 2107.1750001/TUM

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Forms PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b forms based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicant has checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☒ 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- ☐ 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

☐ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.

☒ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language documents BA2 and BA3 is provided by the English abstracts attached respectively thereto.

☒ 7. Copies of documents BA1-BA8 and CA1 are submitted herewith.

☐ 8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. _____, filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

- ☒ 9. No copies of U.S. patents and patent application publications cited on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b are submitted in accordance with 1276 OG 55 because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b forms, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

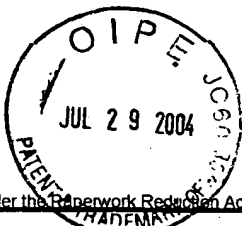
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Date: 07/28/04

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/725,031
Filing Date	December 2, 2003
First Named Inventor	Payman Akhavan Tabassi
Art Unit	1722
Examiner Name	To be assigned
Attorney Docket Number	2107.1750001/TUM

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA1	US- 3,488,810	01-13-1970	Gellert	
	AB1	US- 3,806,295	04-23-1974	Gellert	
	AC1	US- 3,912,133	10-15-1975	Hehl	
	AD1	US- 3,915,358	10-28-1975	Hehl	
	AE1	US- 4,013,393	03-22-1977	Gellert	
	AF1	US- 4,026,518	05-31-1977	Gellert	
	AG1	US- 4,053,271	10-11-1977	Gellert	
	AH1	US- 4,222,733	09-16-1980	Gellert	
	AI1	US- 4,272,236	06-09-1981	Rees	
	AJ1	US- 4,286,941	09-01-1981	Gellert	
	AK1	US- 4,712,995	12-15-1987	Basnet	
	AL1	US- 4,793,795	12-27-1988	Schmidt	
	AM1	US- 4,810,184	03-07-1989	Gellert	
	AN1	US- 4,917,593	04-17-1990	Gellert	
	AO1	US- 4,917,594	04-17-1990	Gellert	
	AP1	US- 4,919,606	04-24-1990	Gellert	
	AQ1	US- 5,067,893	11-26-1991	Osuna-Diaz	
	AR1	US- 5,902,614	05-11-1999	Kuntz	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA1	GB 1 306 697	02-14-1973	Aoki		
	BA2	DE 32 37 923 C2	08-28-1986	Gauler		
	BA3	DE 32 37 924 A1	04-19-1984	Gauler		
	BA4	EP 0 282 999 A2	09-21-1988	Mold-Masters Limited		
	BA5	WO 96/27489	09-12-1996	Stern		

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Sheet

2

of

3

Application Number

10/725.031

Filing Date

December 2, 2003

First Named Inventor

Payman Akhavan Tabassi

Art Unit

1722

Examiner Name _____

To be assigned

Attorney Docket Number

2107.1750001/TUM

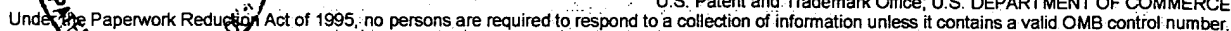
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of

3

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Application Number

10/725.031

Filing Date

December 2, 2003

First Named Inventor

Payman Akhavan Tabassi

Art Unit

1722

Examiner Name

To be assigned

Attorney Docket Number

2107.1750001/TUM

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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